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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/686,112

Applicants : Kishio TAYAMA et al.

Filed : October 14, 2003

For : HIGH-PURITY METAL

Art Unit : 1742

Examiner : Sikyin IP

Docket No. : 02210D/HG

Customer No.: 01933

Confirm. No.: 9743

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450
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on the date noted below.

Richard S. Barth

Attorney: Richard S. Barth

Dated: August 19, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

S I R :

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper and include both attached replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including drawing figures is attached following page 4 of this paper.